GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
PLANNING
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2415
ANSWERED ON:30.11.2016
Role of NITI Aayog
Kharge Shri Mallikarjun

Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is working towards enhancing the role of NITI Aayog so that it plays an important role ranging from advising the State Government on issues like taxation including tax collection and preparation of budget;

(b) if so, the details thereof;
(c) whether the Government proposes to include other economists and experts in the NITI Aayog; and
(d) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) FOR MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND MINISTER OF STATE FOR MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTRY OF HOUSING & URBAN POVERTY ALLEVIATION

(RAO INDERJIT SINGH)

(a) & (b) Earlier, States were advised by erstwhile Planning Commission on different issues including tax collection and preparation of budget during their Annual Plan discussion. Recognizing that different States have different strengths, development needs and capacities and that the way ahead has to focus on a shared vision of more inclusive and sustainable development not only between the Centre and the States but also across all States, the exercise of discussing the Scheme of Financing (SoF) and finalization of Annual Plan of the States is no longer a mandate of NITI Aayog which was constituted on January 1, 2015. As such NITI Aayog is engaged in strengthening cooperative federalism so that the Centre and State can work as a team towards rapid economic transformation of India. In order to provide the States' a platform to discuss their budgeting and financial issues NITI Aayog has been organizing Conferences time to time with States' Planning & Finance Departments.

(c) & (d) The NITI Aayog's vision envisages a full time organizational framework comprising of full-time members with diverse subject expertise and part-time members from leading universities, research organizations and other relevant institutions. There is also a provision for experts, specialists and practitioners with relevant domain knowledge to be nominated as special invitees. NITI Aayog's objective is to provide advice and encourage partnerships between key stakeholders, national and international think tanks, as well as educational and policy research institutions. Besides, NITI has engaged a number of specialists as Officers on Special Duty, Consultants & Young Professionals from diverse fields such as economics, law, management, education, health etc.